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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/506,758	09/08/2004	Kang-su Park	1843.05	8916

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PARK LAW FIRM
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EXAMINER

RUNNING, RACHEL A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3732

DATE MAILED: 06/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/506,758

Applicant(s)

PARK, KANG-SU

Examiner

Rachel A. Running

Art Unit

3732

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 May 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner acknowledges the amendments made to claim 1. The 112 1st paragraph rejection has not been overcome. Claim 1 is still pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The specification fails to describe what the condensed water-discharging unit is, the examiner acknowledges the amendments made to the specification, however, it still does not clearly describe the "condensed water-discharging unit". Therefore, one skilled in the art would be unable to make and/or use this invention.

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure does not commence on a separate sheet in accordance with 37 CFR 1.52(b)(4). A new abstract of the disclosure is required and must be presented on a separate sheet, apart from any other text.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rothman (U.S. Patent No. 1,798,760) in view of Murray (U.S. Patent No. 1,738,916). Rothman discloses a curling iron comprising an electrically operated steam generator (43), including a steam outlet port (45), a steam feeding tube (47) connected to the steam outlet port of the steam generator; a steam storing/heating dissipating tube (23), and a condensed water returning tube (51) see Figure 1 and 2. The curling iron comprises curling tongs, a handle (20), a main arm (13) connected to the handle, a sub-arm (12) hinged to the main arm, and a lever (20) connected to the sub-arm see Figure 1. Rothman does not disclose the condensed water inlet ports or the plurality of steam outlet ports connected to the steam generator. Murray teaches having a plurality of steam outlet ports connected to a steam generator see Figure 4. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the device of Rothman with condensed water inlet ports and have the condensed water returning tube connected to the steam generator via the condensed water inlet port in order to recycle the water to the generator. It would have been further obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to permit the steam generator of Rothman to contain a plurality of

steam outlet ports and a plurality of condensed water inlet ports as taught by Murray in order to have more than one user attach a curling iron to the steam generator.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed May 19, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

4. Applicant argues that the condensed water inlet ports were neither disclosed nor implied, and the only purpose of the hose (51) is to discharge the remaining steam or condensed water from the whole system. The water inlet ports were disclosed in the examiners rejection stating, "It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the device of Rothman with condensed water inlet ports and have the condensed water returning tube connected to the steam generator via the condensed water inlet port in order to recycle the water to the generator." The tube (51) which is used to discharge remaining steam or condensed water was indicated as a returning tube by the examiner, since the examiner takes the position that it would have been obvious to have the water be returned to the generator via condensed water inlet ports therefore the tube (51) would be a "returning tube".

5. Applicant argues that Murray never discloses the idea to recollect the condensed water to generate steam. The Murray reference was not relied upon for teaching of recollecting of the condensed water to generate steam, it was used as a teaching to show that a plurality of steam outlets ports and inlet ports are used in order to have more than one user attach a curling iron to the steam generator.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

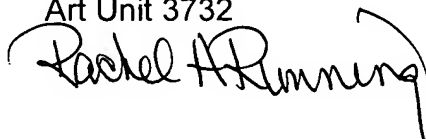
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rachel A. Running whose telephone number is (571) 272-1917. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patricia Bianco can be reached on (571) 272-4940. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3732

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Rachel A. Running
Examiner
Art Unit 3732



PATRICIA BIANCO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

6/13/06